



Dr. Madhan Karky is a lyricist, screenwriter, game writer, research scientist and language technologist — a rare voice in Indian creative arts who bridges rigorous computer science with the soul of Tamil poetry.

Born and brought up in Chennai, Karky completed his Bachelors in Computer Science at the College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University. He then flew to Australia to pursue his Masters in Information Technology at the University of Queensland, graduating with High Distinction and a full scholarship for his PhD in Computer Science, which he completed in 2007.

Karky returned to Chennai and served as Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science, Anna University from 2009 to 2013, nurturing a generation of researchers in Tamil Computing. His pet area of research is Lyric Engineering — the mathematical and linguistic study of poetry.

Karky's Popular 10 Movies

1. Endhiran 1 & 2.0
2. Baahubali 1 & 2
3. RRR
4. Nadigiyar Thilagam
5. Pushpa 1 & 2
6. SitaRamam
7. Idharkuthane Asaipattai Balakumara
8. Kanguva
9. Alladin
10. Lion King

Karky's Popular 10 Songs

1. Irumbile — Endhiran
2. Ennamo Edho — Ko
3. Ask Laska — Nanban
4. Kurumugil — Sita Ramam
5. Google Google — Thuppaakki
6. Kurumba — Tik Tik Tik
7. Adiye — Kadal
8. Natpu & Naattu — RRR
9. Pookkale — I
10. Theeranae — Baahubali

LYRICIST

Karky began his lyric writing career in Director Shankar's *Endhiran (Robot)* starring Superstar Rajinikanth and Aishwarya Rai. His debut song, *Irumbile Oar Irudhayam*, composed and sung by Academy Award winner A. R. Rahman, won him Vijay TV's Best Find of the Year 2010 — a remarkable debut.

Ennamo Edho from *Ko* stayed at No. 1 in most charts for over six months, while the 16-language love song *Ask Laska* from *Nanban* topped Singapore radio charts for over 12 months. The Mandarin song *Zhe Yindu* for *7aam Arivu* showcased Karky's rare command of language and culture.

Among his celebrated songs: *Kurumugil (Sita Ramam)*, *Sivaa Sivaaya (Baahubali)*, *Adiye (Kadal)*, *Pookkale (I)*, *Google Google (Thuppaakki)*, and *Azhagiye (Kaatru Veliyidai)* are among the defining Tamil chartbusters of the decade.

Karky has penned over 1000 songs across 400+ Tamil films — a milestone achieved in a career spanning just 15 years, placing him among the most prolific lyricists in contemporary Tamil cinema.

DIALOGUE WRITER

Karky has co-written dialogues for some of the biggest productions in Indian cinema, including *Endhiran : The Robot*, *Baahubali 1 & 2*, *RRR*, *Pushpa*, and *Sita Ramam*. His technical background as a Computer Scientist lent a rare authenticity to the sci-fi world of *Endhiran*.

For *Baahubali*, Karky invented **Kilikki** — a complete constructed language with a 3500-word vocabulary, its own script and grammar — for the ancient tribe in the film. Kilikki stands as one of the most ambitious feats of language creation in Indian cinema.

GAME WRITER

Karky has penned the **story, screenplay and dialogues** for *Son of Thanjai*, an action-adventure video game released for **Xbox and PlayStation**. Rooted in the grandeur of Thanjavur's Chola heritage, the game marks a landmark moment for Tamil-language storytelling in the global gaming industry — bringing Karky's dual expertise as a creative writer and technologist to a new medium.

KARKY RESEARCH FOUNDATION (KAREFO)

In 2013, Karky founded the **Karky Research Foundation (KaReFo)**, a language computing research organisation based in Chennai. KaReFo develops tools that make Tamil accessible in the digital age — including *Chol* (a bilingual dictionary handling 350 million morphological variations), *Emoni* (a rhyme finder for writers), *Paeri* (a name generator), and *Paadal* (a lyric analysis and search portal). KaReFo's tools are freely accessible to Tamil speakers worldwide.

KARKY TAMIL ACADEMY (KTA)

Building on KaReFo's 13+ years of language research, Karky and his wife Nandini co-founded the **Karky Tamil Academy (KTA)** — a Tamil literacy and education organisation. KTA's *Thambaa Tamil Labs* platform is active in 40+ schools across Tamil Nadu with 9,000+ learners, and its *Payil* curriculum and online courses reach Tamil learners across 35+ countries worldwide.